

The Grog Ration



In the Eye of the Storm

The Story of a Navy Dentist and the Racial Unrest in the Fleet during the Vietnam War Era

By John Sherwood, PhD

FEATURING

EYE OF THE STORM
-1-

A NAVY PHYSICIAN-POET
IN CONTEXT
-4-

SURGEON'S LOG
-7-

SCUTTLEBUTT
-9-

NAVY MEDICAL HISTORY
CROSSWORD PUZZLE
-10-

On 3 November 1972, racial trouble erupted on the carrier *Constellation* (CVA-64). Until that point, Washington had paid little attention to the racial problems of the Navy despite several stories in the *New York Times* on the *Kitty Hawk* and *Hassayampa* riots. Preoccupied with the upcoming presidential election, policy-makers in the capital had little time to worry much about naval matters. The situation aboard *Constellation* changed everything. Whereas the *Kitty Hawk* and *Hassayampa* riots took place in overseas locations, far removed from the prying eyes of the American media, significant episodes of the *Constellation* protest took place on a San Diego pier with members of the media directly witnessing events. As a consequence, it was far more damaging for the Navy's image than the earlier incidents. As Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), put it, "Connie was sort of a floating testimonial to the more occasional pertinence of Murphy's Law: everything that can go wrong probably will."

It was this "mutiny of sorts" that finally prompted the House Armed Ser-

vices Committee to hold hearings on the issue of race in the Navy—an event that, in turn, put all of Admiral Zumwalt's racial equality programs on public trial and precipitated the "nastiest fight" the CNO ever fought in his entire naval career.

As in the case of *Kitty Hawk*, the causes of *Constellation*'s racial problems were diverse and varied. Some of *Constellation*'s problems related to recruitment issues, some to institutional racism in the Navy, some to specific grievances by individual crewmembers, and some to the poisonous racial atmosphere in the country at large in 1972. Recent events on *Kitty Hawk* and *Hassayampa* had an impact as well as the long war in Vietnam, the pervasive anti-war environment in San Diego, and *Constellation*'s grueling operations tempo in that war. In contrast to *Kitty Hawk* and *Hassayampa*, where neither the actions nor the identity of the black leaders was always evident, the actions of many of the young blacks on *Constellation* appeared to be carefully controlled and orchestrated by a small group of leaders. The tight grip that these leaders—especially Seaman Re-

cruit Howard Smith (black) and Seaman Apprentice Edward Martinez (Hispanic)—had on their followers made the *Constellation* episode extremely hard to control, and ultimately the most embarrassing racial episode for the Navy in the fall of 1972. Pitted against this group was the ship's commander, CAPT J.D. Ward, his executive officer, CAPT John Schaub, and a Human Relations Council (HRC) led by the ship's dentist, LCDR James Yacabucci, and its minority affairs officer, ENS David L. Wilson.

As chairman of the ship's HRC, LCDR James Yacabucci played nearly as important a role trying to quell the sit-down strike as the Captain and the XO. Like Ward and Schaub, he also had very little experience in race relations prior to the night of 3 November 1972. "I was totally unprepared, naïve, [and] uneducated."

The son of a working class Italian American family, Yacabucci grew up in Curwensville, Pennsylvania, a small town fifty miles north of Altoona. While still in high school, he joined the Naval Reserve and became a radioman 3rd class with a local electronics unit. Yacabucci entered Penn State University in 1954 and then transferred to the University of Pittsburgh's dental school in 1956. In 1960, his last year of dental school, he joined the Navy's Dental Corps and served as a dentist in shore assignments at Guam and Long Beach for the next four years. Jim's first sea assignment was on the USS *Canberra* (CAG-2), a guided missile cruiser. During that 1964-65 tour, *Canberra* engaged in naval gunfire support missions off



USS *Constellation* (CV-64)
Naval Historical Center

the coast of Vietnam, and Yacabucci, whose office was located near one of the ship's eight-inch guns, vividly remembers experiencing the power of that ordnance. "Every time they shot the guns off all the pilot lights in my X-ray machine fell out and the instruments came off." On *Canberra*, he not only served as a dentist but headed up the medical department as well. "During that tour, I got to do a lot of exciting things such as assisting a physician with an appendectomy operation on the high seas and wiring up a broken jaw."

When his duty on *Canberra* ended, Dr. Yacabucci worked as general dentist at the San Diego Naval Training Center from 1966-1967. Unlike life as a medical department head on ship, shore duty proved less interesting. "I was getting bored because when you're a general dentist in the Navy, about the only thing you do is fillings." Yacabucci therefore applied and was accepted to the Bethesda Na-

val Hospital to become an oral surgeon. He completed the research portion of his training at Bethesda in 1968, and then worked in the San Diego Naval Hospital on the clinical portion in 1969 and 1970.

LCDR Yacabucci joined *Constellation* in 1971 and served on the ship as an oral surgeon during its deployment to the waters off of North Vietnam in 1971 and 1972. In April 1972, CAPT Ward asked Yacabucci to head up a new Human Resources Council (HRC) on the ship. "I don't know why I was chosen. I think probably because I was not involved with the operational parts of the ship. I was just the dentist. I did surgery every day, but I had my evenings free unless there was an emergency. Everybody else was involved in the twenty-four-hour operation of the ship, so that may be one reason. This directive came down to establish a human relations council, and so they told me to do it."

Yacabucci spent the next several

weeks trying to gather information on the functions of an HRC from other commands. When the ship returned to San Diego, he also took a weeklong course on “command development” taught by the Navy’s Human Resources Development Center in San Diego. At that course, he engaged in role-playing exercises designed to teach him how to handle various command situations. “It was good sensitivity training,” he recalled, but it did not prepare him for what happened on the ship in November 1972.

Yacabucci may have been a fine dentist and oral surgeon, but he was in no way prepared to run *Constellation’s* HRC. The purpose of the council, as envisioned by Zumwalt, was to facilitate communications between minority groups and the chain-of-command. To be effective, the leader of the HRC had to be a person respected by both sides in the equation. As a white man, and a non-flyer, Yacabucci simply did not possess the credentials to be the head of the HRC. Better race relations training might have helped him to some degree and the Navy did establish a Race Relations School in Millington, Tennessee, shortly after the *Constellation* flair-up, to better train its minority affairs officers and Human Relations Council chairpersons. However, the long-term solution to the problem lay in recruiting more black aviators and unrestricted line officers to serve in positions such as these—something that would take many years to accomplish.


At 9:45 pm on 3 November, LCDR Yacabucci convened a meeting of the HRC to hear the

grievances of the men on the mess deck. HRC consisted of three officers and five enlisted crewman. One officer was black and the other two, white. The enlisted cadre consisted of two blacks, two whites, and one Asian. HRC had the authority to listen to grievances and make recommendations for change, but it could not formulate policy for the ship.

The first question item discussed that night related to the six discharges being given to black ring-leaders by CAPT Ward. A personnel officer who attended the meeting, Chief Warrant Officer Havis W. Barfeld, stated that “the processing of all administrative discharges had been stopped and no discharges had been issued.” Several members of the audience then asked Barfeld about the general discharges being administered to reduce the size of the ship’s company and improve habitability. He responded by telling the men that those discharges related to performance and not race and were fully authorized by Navy regulations. He even read portions of the Bureau of Personnel manual to prove his point, but was heckled as he tried to justify the command group’s actions to the black sailors.

Fireman Apprentice John L. Baker, Seaman Apprentice Charles D. Bowman, Seaman Edward A. Martinez, Airman Mose Stanburry, and Fireman Apprentice Michael E. Turman then proceeded to take over the meeting. This leadership group, which included Martinez and Smith, refused to allow the HRC to get a word in edgewise. “They pretty much shut me down, including my black members on the human relations council,” re-

called Yacabucci. “My black senior men were absolutely dumbfounded. It was like: We didn’t know where these people came from.”

After extended meetings with the protest group proved unproductive, CAPT J.D. Ward ordered the group to form a beach detachment and depart the ship. Ultimately 46 of the sailors were discharged (36 honorably). The *Constellation* protest proved more damaging to the Navy’s reputation than either the *Kitty Hawk* and *Hassayampa* riots. The latter two events occurred on ships far from the public eye. Although violent and highly disruptive to those at the scene, they did not receive much media attention. The beach detachment, by comparison, broadcast the Navy’s racial problems to the national media and transformed the *Constellation* into a living symbol of all that was wrong in the Navy with respect to race relations. The longer the protest persisted, the stronger the negotiating position of the dissenters became. 

Dr. Sherwood is a historian and author at the Naval Historical Center in Washington, DC. This article is based on Chapter 7 of his most recent book, *Black Sailors, White Navy: Racial Unrest in the Fleet During the Vietnam War Era* (NYU Press, 2007).

A Navy Physician-Poet in Context

Ut Medicine Poesis

Poetry is arguably the most misperceived of the arts. It is often shrugged off as a nice display of rhyme and meter. Its practitioners, i.e., the poets, are assumed to hide away in English literature departments, art schools, hip coffee houses if not, solely, in mid-19th century tales of Bohemia.¹ However, beyond this perceivably limited world the poet exists and even thrives. In this realm of caregivers we call the Navy Medical Department there are countless individuals with wonderfully eclectic tastes and remarkable talents. As we will see with a Navy physician named CAPT Frederick Foote, poetry is one of them.

The Navy Caregiver as Poet

CAPT Frederick Foote is a Navy neurologist with over thirty years' experience. He is also a published poet who has traveled across the country reciting poems about medicine, war, and, lately, coal trains. Recently, he returned from a dramatic poetry reading in Minnesota, a place which, he wryly notes, "seems to have a weakness for my poetry." When asked where poetry fits in his life, Dr. Foote proudly admits that he sees himself

as a physician AND a poet.

These seemingly diverse interests intersected at a life-altering juncture in his teenage years.

"Like many poets I became passionate about poetry in my teens. I was a military child. At the age of sixteen I developed appendicitis and was admitted to the Bethesda Naval Hospital and spent three weeks in the ward where it was just me and thirty-nine shot-to-pieces Marines from Vietnam. That experience so horrified me that it both cast a dark side over my poetry and also made me resolve to use part of my life to help the wounded and victims of war."

With the goal of helping those victims, CAPT Foote sought a career in Navy medicine—first as a hospital corpsman and then as a physician. His career path has lead him through peacetime and war, but, as he puts it, "I was never accurately shot at." His most recent wartime experience was during the first phase of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003 with duty aboard the USNS *Comfort*.

After what proved to be a trying experience aboard ship, CAPT Foote began writing what would become a cycle of Iraqi poems. As he recalls, "The poems started to

come to me aboard the *Comfort*. I did not write poetry while taking care of war wounded as it was too overwhelming. But soon after coming back, the Iraqi poems started to swim up and before you know it I had five or ten. At that point I was focusing on experiences and trying to express them."

His Iraqi war cycle of poems tells of allied, civilian, and enemy wounded as well as the medical caregivers and "miracle workers" stationed shipboard. Many of these poems are about specific people. "You Made the Iraqis Their Scarves" chronicles a Navy hand surgeon named CDR Patricia McKay. The poem's final stanza of the poem reads:

*The day you brought the scarves down
They pressed your hands
And those not maimed
Tied scarves around the heads
Of friends who couldn't move
(silk to die for
new to those
dust-colored homes
only the F-18s
had deemed worth bombing)*

*Those who thought
they could no longer weep
wept to feel the touch
of simple cloth*

And they were once again sacred women

1. Henri Murger (1822-1861) was a French novelist who practically invented all of the fanciful notions of bohemian subculture. His short stories, later compiled in the book *Scènes de la Vie Bohème* (1851), were loosely based on his adventures in Paris as an impoverished writer.

Dr. Foote's poem speaks of Iraqi patients utterly shattered and crazed with fear. A Navy caregiver understands and tries to alleviate their pain with a simple act of kindness. This poem, which was published in a national magazine, garnered much attention outside the Navy medical community. CAPT Foote received many kind e-mails from all over the world with messages like: "What a wonderful person this Dr. McKay must be" and "How I wish she could be my doctor." For Dr. Foote there is a certain pride in these letters. As he admits, "Being able to present the healing and deeds of our wonderful caregivers to the rest of the world is a special treat for me."

Poetry's Decline in Society

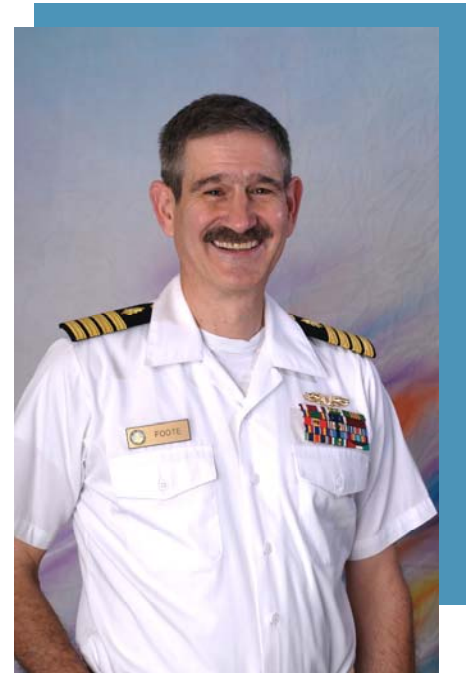
The blustery gales of time have hit poetry hard. America's poets laureate no longer hold court as they once did. CAPT Foote sees the root of poetry's decline as being tied to the evolution (or devolution) of its base. "Forty to fifty years ago there was readership for poets like T.S. Eliot, Robert Frost, and Wallace Stevens."² Foote contends. "These were among the finest artists in our country. Their poems were published in magazines that reached millions upon millions of people. This is no longer true today. There has been an academicization of poetry that runs parallel with the growth of creative writing programs and the primacy of the MFA degree. As a result, poetry speaks to a smaller

and smaller audience."

Dr. Foote also acknowledges the loss of poetic memory in society. Traditional poetic tools like meter and rhyme and other memory aids have gradually been dispensed with, like antiquated kitchen appliances. "There's an overestimate of free verse which tries to capture ordinary speech. That's okay in keeping yourself democratic, but these poems are harder to remember. In my opinion we're entering an age when poetry will have to compete with visual and musical experiences, some of which will come from artificial reality technology. Millions of people will be tuned into that stuff. If poetry is going to compete at all as truthful, significant, and exact and meaningful speech, it has got to seize the memory and hold it in the face of the onslaught of music and visual imagery."

Poesis in Context

By derivation, poetry is not an art but rather art itself. The word poetry comes from the Greek word "poesis" meaning "to make" or "to create." Composing music, directing films, painting, sculpting, writing, woodworking, and practically anything that requires creativity can be termed acts of poetry. On another level, poetry is a specific art, an inner art communicated through words imbued with emotion, meaning, and inner truth. For CAPT Foote, this poetry is built on the principles of individuality, and passion. "Poetry to me is



**CAPT Frederick Foote,
Navy surgeon and poet**

Courtesy of CAPT Foote

a communion with an unseen world that produces musical sounds and words. When I write poetry—which I try to do every day—I sit down and try to empty my mind and allow myself to hear very clearly the words and sounds emerging from that spiritual world. John Berryman said poets should get down on their knees and pray to the muse before writing.³ And sometimes I do that. But in every case an effort to seek out a stillness and a 'listener' mode for something that is but isn't there around you."

One of the hallmarks of poetry is form. Each poem has its own rhyme, meter, and style. Foote categorizes his poetry as being out of the Dionysian school of poetry,

2. **Renowned poet Wallace Stevens (1879-1955) spent forty years as a claims attorney at the Hartford Insurance Company in Connecticut. When he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for poetry it came as quite a shock to many of his colleagues. One of whom is claimed to have said, "What Wally—a poet?" Today we think of Stevens as the author of "The Emperor of Ice-Cream" and other stylized works.**
3. **John Berryman (1914-1972)—20th century American master poet.**


as opposed to the Apollonian school which views the poem as a mathematical construct.⁴ Foote jokes, “That’s okay too, but as a true sailor, I am more into Bacchus—good wine and intoxication.”

The Caregiver as Poet

Is CAPT Foote an anomaly in his profession? Yes and no. In one respect relatively few physicians would ever consider themselves poets let alone actively express themselves through this art form. Then again, there have been generations of physician-poets. As the American physician and patriot Dr. Benjamin Rush once reminded

his son: “Some of our best poets have been physicians.”⁵ If we look back in history we see that his words do ring true. After all, let us not forget that the poet John Keats was a doctor.

The fact that a physician, or any other medical professional, writes poetry or creates art should not be perceived as an antithetical notion or at best a “nice to know” tidbit served at boring cocktail parties. The medical profession, and, more specifically, the Navy’s own legion of dentists, hospital corpsmen, MSC’s, nurses, and physicians is replete with dedicated caregivers who embody the dearest tenet of poetry: the expression of one’s

heart and soul. CAPT Foote is not the sole poet of Navy medicine; he is, in a sense, its current standard-bearer.  **ABS**

Note

Visit CAPT Foote at his website:
www.frederickfoote.com

The Man in the Wound

Quiet the ward, quiet the dressing-cart now,
quiet the morphine drip, blessed easer of pain—
turning his head as I pass, he says, “Hi, Doc,”
asks if I’m working too hard—I look beat—overstrained.
his wounds came at Nasirayah, and I was not there
to shield him from bullets and flame, being safe in the rear;
yet his thought is always of me, the nurse or the friend,
sometimes even the enemy soldier he glimpses or hears.
With arms laid waste, he finds no reason to hate;
his comrades now are all who grieved and withstood:
just as the wound proclaims the hell all have made,
the man in the wound is raised—shown peaceful, and good.

Frederick Foote, 2004

(Poem was originally published in *JAMA*)

-
4. Dionysian versus Apollonian—is a classic dichotomy reflected onto poetry.
5. In a letter written to his son James—who was also a physician—Dr. Benjamin Rush wrote: “A talent for poetry is often connected with that talent for extensive observation which has been found eminently useful in the science of medicine. Some of our best physicians have been poets, and some of the best descriptions of diseases that are extant have been written by poets who were not physicians.” *Letters of Dr. Benjamin Rush*, Volume 2. 1793-1813. Edited by L.H. Butterfield. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press. 1951. pp 876-877.

The Surgeon's Log

—Navy Medicine's Historical Timeline

1843

Thulia: A Tale of the Antarctic

Dr. James Croxall Palmer (1811-1883) was one of seven Navy surgeons on the First United States Exploring Expedition, aka, "The (Charles) Wilkes Expedition" (1838-1842). After returning from the journey, Surgeon Palmer published an epic poem about his adventures entitled *Thulia: A Tale of the Antarctic* (1843). The poem, which was illustrated by the artist Alfred T. Agate (1812-1846), is a dramatic retelling of Palmer's harrowing adventures aboard the schooner *Flying-Fish* along the southern-most ice barriers. In the poem, "Thulia" is the ship's name and is meant to conjure thoughts of a mythical land which Antarctica certainly must have seemed. The poem is grouped into 52 four-line stanzas and four eight-line stanzas. The poem is significant as one of the first publications about the scientific expedition as well as a prime example of a form of literature popular in mid-nineteenth century America. The following is an excerpt.

II

The braying penguin sounds his horn
And flights of cormorants are screaming
Their croaking welcome to the morn,
Athwart the frozen mountains gleaming.

Fleet as the ten that wakeful springs,
From stunted beech or blighted willow,
Our little Thulia spreads her wings,
And off she skims across the billow.

A fairer morning, o'er the face
Of wintry region, never smiled;
And, 'mid the ripples at its base,
The stormy Cape itself looks mild.¹

With hopes elate, and hearts that spurn
All thoughts of fearing wind or waves,
The eager rovers southward turn,
To seek new space for human graves.



**Water color of the *Flying-Fish* in a storm
by Alfred T. Agate.**

Naval Historical Center

1. Palmer writes in his journal that the "very sternness Cape Horn itself, relaxed in the mild sunshine." See "Notes," *Thulia* (1843)

Ah! Had the primal sin, that bore
The doom of death, but made us wise,
Not now for luxury or lore,
Would man give up his Paradise;

Or quit the haunts he ranged of old,
The land of love that gave him birth,
For thirst of glory or of gold,
To wander up and down the earth.

But youth and manhood thus we pass,
Deluded by the wish to roam;
And find with age—to late, alas!—
That all our joys were left at home.

III

The wind is up: the storm once more
Asserts dominion o'er the main;
And onward leads, with thundering roar,
His mingled hosts of hail and rain.

O'er mounds of vapour darkly rolled,
Huge castled clouds are towering high,
Confronting with the billows bold,
That dash defiance to the sky.

Deep in the hollow of a wave,
The sea-bird swoops to find a lee;
But where the maddened waters rave,
What refuge, puny bark, for thee?


Now by the surges upward whirled,
She totters on their crests of snow:
Anon, precipitately hurled,
Down topples to the gulf below.

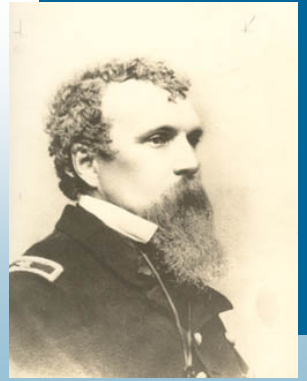
The leaden skies above her frown,
Through frozen drifts of cutting sleet;
And combing billows tumbling down,
Infold her like a winding-sheet

The dove that wandered from the ark,
To seek her long-deserted nest,
Had vainly hovered round this bark,
For one dry spot her wing to rest.

The Remarkable Career of Dr. James Palmer

Surgeon Palmer could certainly boast one of the more remarkable careers in the Navy. In addition to his participation in the famous First United States Exploring Expedition, Palmer served aboard the USS *Brandywine* and *Vincennes* during their notable circumnavigational journeys. Palmer witnessed the laying of the Trans-Atlantic telegraph cable while senior surgeon aboard USS *Niagara*. During the Civil War he served as Fleet Surgeon of the West Gulf Blockading Squadron under Admiral David Farragut. In 1864, he was aboard the USS *Hartford* during the Battle of Mobile Bay. After the battle, he boarded the captured CSS *Tennessee* where he attended the wounds of Admiral Franklin Buchanan, ultimately saving his leg. Later, due to his role as an intermediary between Admiral Farragut and Confederate Secretary of the Navy Stephen Mallory, it was agreed by warring sides that all captured Navy surgeons would not be kept as Prisoners of War.

After the Civil War, Dr. Palmer served at Naval Hospitals Brooklyn, NY, and Pensacola, FL. In 1872, he was selected by President U.S. Grant to be the Surgeon General of the Navy. His tenure in office was short-lived, however, due to the effects of malaria that he contracted in Pensacola. 



The Antarctic Mariner's Song

A section of Palmer's *Thulia* is titled "The Antarctic Mariner's Song." This "song" was later adapted into a musical ballad—complete with guitar accompaniment—by the American geologist James Dwight Dana (1813-1895) and published separately in 1868. The following is one of the song's verses.

Sweetly, from the land of roses,
Sighing comes the northern breeze;
And the smile of dawn reposes,
All in blushes, on the seas.
Now within the sleeping sail,
Murmurs soft the gentle gale.
Was the sheet, and keep away:
Glory guides us south to-day.

On, little-bark! On, yet awhile!
Across the frozen desert flee;
For yonder, with its welcome smile,
Now sparkles bright thine own blue sea.

Scuttlebutt

"A REPOSITORY OF BOTTLED MONSTERS" MEDICAL HISTORY BLOG

HISTORICAL LECTURE SCHEDULED FOR 8 AUGUST 2008

Here at *The Grog Ration* we have recently become aware of a fascinating military medical history blog with the curious name, "A Repository for Bottled Monsters" (see <http://bottledmonsters.blogspot.com>). Mike Rhode, Archivist at the National Museum of Health and Medicine and the blog's creator, chose the title because, "It's historical." Rhode goes on to explain that "I found it in a quote from one of the former [museum] curators.

World War II confirmed the Army Medical Museum's primary role in pathology consultation. James Ash, the curator during the war and a pathologist, noted, 'Shortly after the last war, more concerted efforts were instituted to concentrate in the Army Medical Museum the significant pathologic material occurring in Army installations.' He closed with the complaint, 'We still suffer under the connotation museum, an institution still thought of by many as a repository for bottled monsters and medical curiosities. To be sure, we have such specimens. As is required by law, we maintain an exhibit open to the public, but in war time, at least, the museum per se is the least of our functions, and we like to be thought of as the Army Institute of Pathology, a designation recently authorized by the Surgeon General.'"

The Surgeon General's Speaker series is scheduled to continue on 8 August 2008 with the lecture "Jonathan Messersmith Foltz: Colorful Naval Surgeon, and Friend and Foe of President James Buchanan" by Ludwig Deppisch, MD (author of the acclaimed book, *The White House Physician*). The lecture is free of charge and open to all interested individuals. It will take place in the Memorial Auditorium, NNMC Bethesda, MD, at 1100. [↻](#)



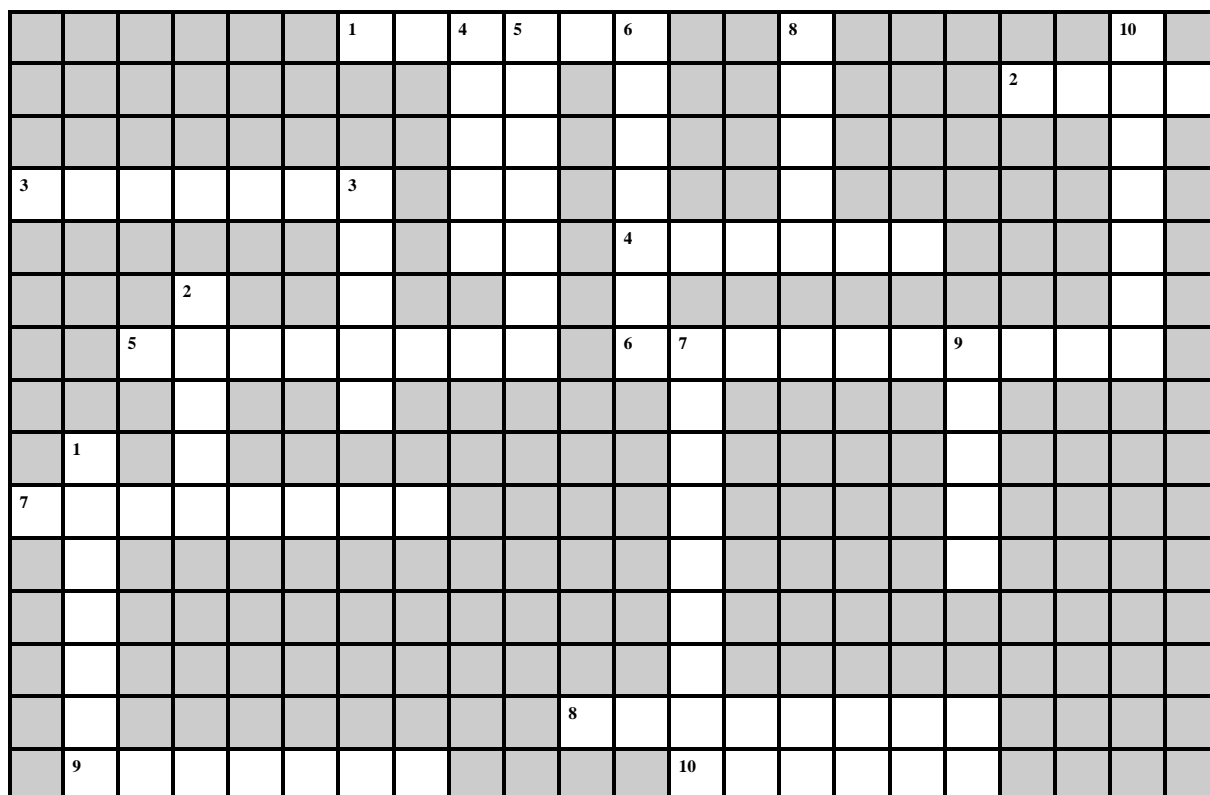
The Army Medical Museum, 7th and Independence Avenue, Washington, DC, the ancestor of today's National Museum of Health and Medicine.

National Museum of Health and Medicine

This repository promises news about medical museum exhibits, as well as offers a seemingly endless supply of medical history musings and photographs. Check it out! [↻](#)

Navy Medical History

Crossword Puzzle #1



Across

1. Name of Surgeon James Palmer's epic poem.
2. Vietnam Hospital Corps Hero: HM3 _____ Valdez.
3. Nautical phrase. "Mind your _____."
4. Korean War Medal of Honor recipient: HM3 _____ Benfold.
5. Original site of the U.S. Naval Laboratory.
6. Place where medicines are made.
7. Site of clinic named after PhM1c John Balch.
8. Last name of Swift's fictional Navy doctor.
9. Navy song "_____ Aweigh."
10. *Jeannette* Expedition doctor.

Down

1. Site of WWII Fleet Hospital 101 (Hint. Samoa).
2. First African-American to graduate from the Naval Academy: Wesley _____.
3. Site of Alaska Naval Dispensary in 1879.
4. Name of 19th century naval punishment reformer. _____ Levy.
5. Name Dr. Morton gave for anesthetic ether concoction.
6. Original home of Navy flight nurse school.
7. Site of naval hospital most ravaged by yellow fever in the nineteenth century.
8. Tablets used in lieu of penicillin by WWII corpsmen.
9. Vietnam Medal of Honor recipient: HM3 Wayne _____.
10. Ship's hospital.

Please e-mail your answers to andre.sobocinski@med.navy.mil by 5 August 2008 to receive a special prize.

Navy Medical History Quiz

Answers (May-June 2008)

- 1.) In 1942, the editors of the reestablished *Hospital Corps Quarterly* adopted a symbol of an anchor, caduceus, and Geneva cross for the masthead of the journal. Designed by the artist Charles W. Chickering, this insignia would later be used as the official emblem of the National Association Veterans of the Hospital Corps as well as incorporated in the Naval Hospital Corps School Great Lakes flag in 1945. What is the name of this Navy Hospital Corps symbol?

Answer: Ancaducros

- 2.) Going back to the nineteenth century, Navy medical personnel have proven themselves to be prolific writers of medical treatises, textbooks, travel logs, and even histories and genealogies. The following list contains the names of actual books. All but one were written by Navy medical personnel. Identify the one title that does not belong.

- A.) *The Hygiene of Emigrant Ships*
- B.) *Elements of Natural History Embracing Zoology, Botany and Geology*
- C.) *Medical Inquiries and Observations*
- D.) *Narrative of a Voyage Round the World During the Years 1835, 1836, 1837*
- E.) *The Endemic Influence of Evil Government*
- F.) *Electrocardiography in Practice*

Answer: *Medical Inquiries and Observations* was written by Dr. Benjamin Rush. All other published titles were written by Navy medical personnel.

- 3.) Navy medical personnel have long acted as leaders in the fields of aviation and space medicine. One Navy physician, in particular, paved the way for the Navy's participation in the space program partly through the study of the physiological and psychological effects of weightlessness in the 1950's. What is the name of this pioneer scientist? (*Hint. In 1940, he began his famous study on the relationship between certain psychological and physical tests and the success of individuals in flight training programs.*)

Answer: CAPT Ashton Graybiel, MC, USN.

Congratulations to Mr. Davis Elliott for being the first to answer all these questions correctly!

The Grog Ration is a bi-monthly publication dedicated to the promotion and preservation of the history of the Navy Medical Department and the field of maritime medicine. Articles and information published in *The Grog Ration* are historical and are not meant to reflect upon the present-day policy of the Navy Medical Department, U.S. Navy, and/or the Department of Defense.

The staff of *The Grog Ration* are always looking for original articles (of less than 2,000 words), historical artwork and photographs, and trivia to publish. For more information on what we are looking for, please contact us at:

E-Mail: Andre.Sobocinski@med.navy.mil

Tele: (202) 762-3244

Fax: (202) 762-3380

Address:

Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

2300 E Street, NW

Washington, DC 20372-5300

ATTN: Office of the Historian

If you have articles and information about the acts and accomplishments of Navy medical personnel of the present-day please send them to **Navy Medicine** magazine at:

E-Mail 1: Janice.Hores@med.navy.mil

E-Mail 2: 19native47@verizon.net

Address:

Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

2300 E Street, NW

Washington, DC 20372-5300

ATTN: Office of the Historian